

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 SCEM-02 EB-11

COME-00 INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 SCI-06 /195 W

----- 065517

R 071711Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9143

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17646

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, GW, EG, XE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAQQAF

1. ALTHOUGH PRESS INEVITABLY TENDED TO REPORT SAQQAF'S DECEMBER 3 VISIT AS ASPECT OF CRISIS UNLEASHED BB MID-EAST WAR AND OIL EMBARGO, WE ARE TOLD BY FONOFF MID-EAST DIRECTOR, REDIES, THAT DISCUSSIONS WERE DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO BILATERAL RELATIONS. REDIES RECALLED THAT FRG AND SAUDIA ARABIA HAD ONLY REESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR AND SAID IT HAD BEEN AGREED AT THAT TIME THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN EARLY MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS TO DISCUSS FUTURE COOPERATION. THIS MEETING HAD BEEN DELAYED BY MID-EAST WAR AND BY SAQQAF'S EXTENDED SOJOURN IN US.

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2. SAUDIS WERE INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TALKED PARTICULARLY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF GERMAN INVESTMENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA. ACCORDING TO REDIES, THEY CITED FRG REFINERY PROJECT IN IRAN AS EXAMPLE OF WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND. THIS APPEAL ON SAQQAF'S PART WAS ALONG LINES OF STATEMENTS MADE BY OIL MINISTER YAMMANI IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN DEC.3 ISSUE OF DER SOIEGEL. YAMMANI HAD SAID THAT, BEFORE HIS COUNTRY COULD RESTORE A FULLY ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF OIL TO THE WEST, ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE AIMED AT INDUSTRIALIZING SAUDI ARABIA AND CREATING AN ECONOMIC SUBSTITUTE FOR ITS OIL RESOURCES.

3. THE SUBJECT OF TRANSIT CRUDE FROM THE NETHERLANDS WAS NOT DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT. THROUGH ITS EMBASSY IN JIDDA, HOWEVER, THE FRG HAS SOUGHT AGREEMENT ON THE MODALITIES UNDER WHICH SAUDI CRUDE WILL CONTINUE TO BE PUMPED TO THE FRG THROUGH THE PIPELINE FROM ROTTERDAM. ARRANGEMENTS UNDER DISCUSSION WOULD ALLEGEDLY BE SIMILAR TO THOSE DISCUSSED IN BRUSSELS (BRUSSELS 7015), BASICALLY INVOLVING ASSURANCE THAT THE CRUDE WOULD BE REFINED AND CONSUMED IN THE FRG. ECONOMICS MINISTRY SOURCES ARE HOPEFUL THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS CAN BE CONCLUDED DURING A YAMANI VISIT LATER THIS MONTH, WHICH THE FRG STILL EXPECTS.

HILLENBRAND

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